

“The Earth on Turtle’s Back” (Onondaga)
“When Grizzlies Walked Upright” (Modoc)
from The Navajo Origin Legend (Navajo)
from The Iroquois Constitution (Iroquois)

Support for Writing

Before you write down your retelling of one of the myths in this section, gather your ideas into the graphic organizer below. First, choose an element of the original myth. Then, explain how you will keep or adapt the element.

Retelling of the Myth of _____

Elements of the Myth	What I Will Keep or Adapt from the Myth
Basic Story/Characters/Plot	Notes about how to change Basic Story/Characters/Plot
Beliefs	Notes about how to change the Beliefs
Environment	Notes about how to change the Environment
Food and Clothing	Notes about how to change Food and Clothing

On a separate page, write a first draft of your retold myth. Then, revise it by highlighting certain actions to make your myth more dramatic and suspenseful. Finally, read it to your classmates and ask for responses.